[English]

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Blue Print

1782. SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have drawn up a blue print for the development of tourism in the country for the next decades;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether specified areas of tourist activities are proposed to be thrown open to the private tourist agencies and organisations;
- (c) whether the Tourism Policy would be got vetted by the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (c) A draft National Policy on Tourism has been prepared by the Department of Tourism and placed in the Parliament Library and circulated to the Members of the Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism, State Governments and Industrial Associations. The policy was also discussed in a Workshop organised on 26th June, 1997 and in the Tourism Ministers' Conference on 27th June, 1997. The policy aims at achieving sustainable development of tourism through the coordinated efforts of Central Government, State Governments and the private sector. It also aims at creating awareness on tourism and ensuring public participation in the development of tourism.

Court Orders for Civilian Officers of Dock Yard, Navy

1783. SHRI A. SAMPATH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India has passed

an order on July 8, 1996 that Government should consiser expeditious disposal of the representation regarding pay scale anomaly of the petitioner, namely Civilian Officers of Dock Yard of Indian Navy as was done in respect of JSOs in DRDO; and

(b) if so, the action taken so far to implement Supreme Court's orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As directed by the Supreme Court, the petition has been disposed off and the petitioner namely, the Indian Navy Civilian Officers Association, Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam has been given a reply on 29.7.1997.

Annual Rainfall in States

1784. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the average annual rainfall in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Meghalaya and rivers flowing through these States;
- (b) the irrigation and hydro-generation potential of the rivers and the utilisation of that potential State-wise:
- (c) whether any survey has been conducted to harness the irrigation and hydro-potential and the Central assistance proposed to be provided to these States for the purpose, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) Details of average (normal) annual rainfall, major river systems, Creation and utilisation of irrigation potential and hydro-generation potential in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Meghalaya are as under:

S.No	o. Item		States	
		Arunachal Pradesh	Manipur	Meghalaya
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Annual Normal Rainfall in millimetre (mm)	2781	1382	4869
2.	Major River Systems/ sub-systems	Brahmaputra, Subansiri, Siang, Lohit, Kameng, Dibong, Noa, Dihing,	Barak	Meghna, Kopili, Kulsi, Bharalu, Dudhnoi, Jinarai, Jinjiram.
3.	Irrigation potential at the end of Eighth Plan (provisional) in thousand hectares			
	(i) Created	82.1	151.1	53.1
	(ii) Utilised	73.1	127.7	46.7

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Hydro-generation potential (Mega Watt at 60% Load Fac	tor)		
	(i) Total potential	26756	1176	1070
	(ii) Potential developed	8.33	73.17	121.67

(c) Yes, Sir. In addition to plan allocations Central Loan Assistance of Rs. 4.30 crores has been provided for Khuga Irrigation Project of Manipur during 1996-97 under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme. No Central assistance is provided for Hydro-Projects in the State-sector.

Written Answers

[Translation]

Cooking Gas Bottling Plants

1785. SHRI N.J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ratio of the cooking gas bottling plants in Gujarat is minimum as compared with the population of the country;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to set up new bottling plants in Gujarat; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir. At present there are 91 LPG bottling plants operating in the country with total bottling capacity of 3457 TMTPA. Out of these, following six bottling plants are operating in the State of Gujarat.

Location	Capacity (TMTPA)
Rajkot	44
Hazira	44
Koyali	102
Surat	12
Gandhinagar	26
Ahmedabad	34
Total	262

In addition to the above, one bottling plant with a capacity of 66 TMTPA has been commissioned recently at Ahmedabad.

- (b) Do not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) and (d) In addition to the bottling plants as mentioned in (a) above, IOC is setting up a bottling plant at Gandhar with a bottling capacity of 68 TMTPA

against part resitement of Koyali bottling plant and one LPG bottling plant at Bhavnagar with a capacity of 44 TMTPA, under VIII Plan.

[English]

Airports in North-East

1786. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are considering to make Guwahati Airport as the "Hub" of air service for entire North-East:
 - (b) if so, when and the details thereof;
- (c) whether Silchar Airport is likely to be augmented soon facilitating landing and take-off flights; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Guwahati is planned to be made a regional hub for the North-East. Upgradation of facilities at Guwahati Airport is an ongoing process.

(c) and (d) Airports Authority of India has already initiated action to replace the existing Very high frequency Omni Range (VOR) by Doppler Very high frequency Omni Range (DVOR) colocated with Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) at a cost of Rs. 101.26 lakhs. The work is likely to be completed by November, 1997.

Telugu Ganga Project

1787. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Central Water Commission refused to give hydrological clearance for prestigious multipurpose Telugu Ganga Project;
- (b) the main reasons to put forward by the Union Government;
- (c) the steps taken by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to meet the need of the Union Government for its approval; and
- (d) the time proposed to be taken by the State Government to get the projects cleared after its due clarification from the Union Government?